

ANNUAL REPORT

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE HARRIS COUNTY JUVENILE PROBATION DEPARTMENT FOR THE YEAR 1961



1961

HARRIS COUNTY JUVENILE PROBATION DEPARTMENT
HOUSTON, TEXAS

PAUL IRICK
CHIEF PROBATION OFFICER



R. O. D. SCHOENBACHER
ASST. CHIEF PROBATION OFFICER

PROBATION DEPARTMENT
OF
HARRIS COUNTY

3540 WEST DALLAS
HOUSTON 19, TEXAS

DECEMBER 31, 1961

THE HONORABLE JUVENILE BOARD,
THE HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS COURT,
ALL CITIZENS OF HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS.

SIRS:

THE FOLLOWING REPORT SUMMARIZES THE SERVICES RENDERED BY THE HARRIS COUNTY JUVENILE PROBATION DEPARTMENT TO DELINQUENT AND DEPENDENT CHILDREN FOR THE YEAR 1961.

IN ANALYZING THE GENERAL PICTURE OF THE PROBLEM OF DELINQUENCY AND DEPENDENCY IN OUR COMMUNITY IT IS FOUND TO BE REPETITIOUS OF PRECEDING YEARS. THE ONE WORD, INCREASE, APPEARS AGAIN AS IN THE PAST TEN YEARS, AND APPARENTLY IS DESTINED TO BE A ONE WORD DESCRIPTION OF THE PROBLEM FOR SOME YEARS TO COME. SIMILARLY REPETITIOUS IS THE VIEW THAT IS HELD BY THOSE WORKING DIRECTLY WITH THIS PROBLEM, AND IT ALSO HAS A ONE WORD DESCRIPTION - THAT OF ALARM. "CRYING WOLF" EACH YEAR HAS THE EFFECT OF LESSENING THE INTEREST OF MANY CITIZENS, THEREFORE, IT IS HOPED THAT EACH PERSON WHO HAS ANY INTEREST IN THE SERVICES OF THE COMMUNITY WHICH THEY SPONSOR FINANCIALLY, WILL BE CHALLENGED TO LOOK INTO THIS PROBLEM WITH AN AROUSED INTEREST SO THAT AN EXAMINATION OF WHAT IS BEING DONE CAN RESULT IN A UNITED EFFORT FOR A SOUND APPROACH IN CONTROLLING AND DECREASING THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH INVOLVED.

COMMUNITY EFFORTS HAVE CONSISTENTLY INCREASED IN ORDER TO KEEP ABREAST OF THIS PROBLEM, BUT BECAUSE OF THE FAR-REACHING EFFECTS AND THE MULTI-FACTORED CAUSES UNDERLYING THIS SOCIAL CANCER, ONLY A SURFACE CONTROL HAS BEEN MAINTAINED.

THE ASSISTANCE OF THE JUVENILE DIVISIONS OF THE HOUSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT, THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE AND ALL POLICE DEPARTMENTS IN THE COUNTY, COMBINED WITH THE EFFORTS OF SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS, PUBLIC AND PRIVATE AGENCIES, PUBLIC OFFICIALS, AND INDIVIDUAL CITIZENS HAS BEEN OF GREAT HELP TO OUR SERVICE, AND ALL ARE TO BE COMMENDED.

SINCERELY YOURS,

Paul Irick
PAUL IRICK,

CHIEF PROBATION OFFICER

Facts . . .

on Dependency and Delinquency Referrals

It is to be noted that this year's report is condensed, containing the charting and statistics necessary to give a numerical accounting of the number of children and youth served. One factor that is ever prominent is that of population growth and our county, city and department are all affected by these "growing pains."

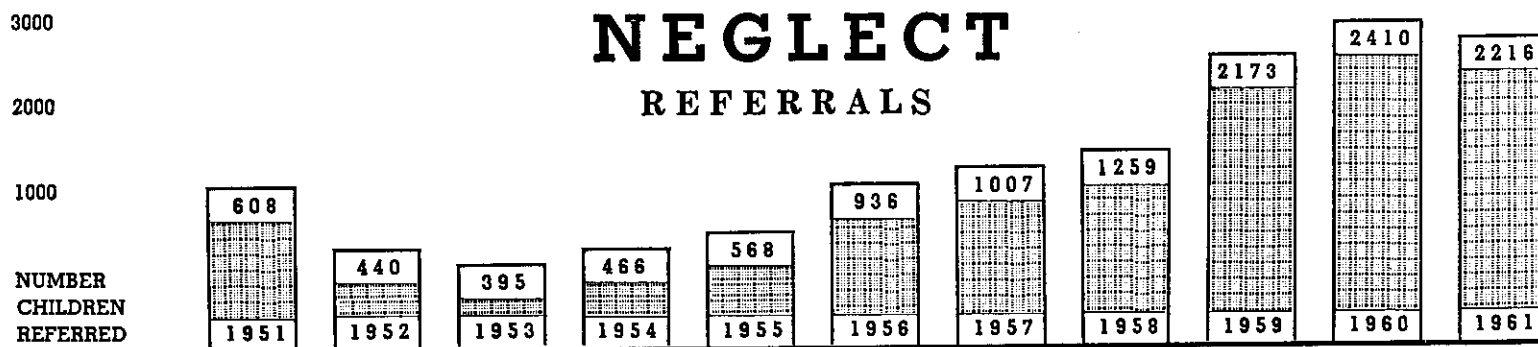
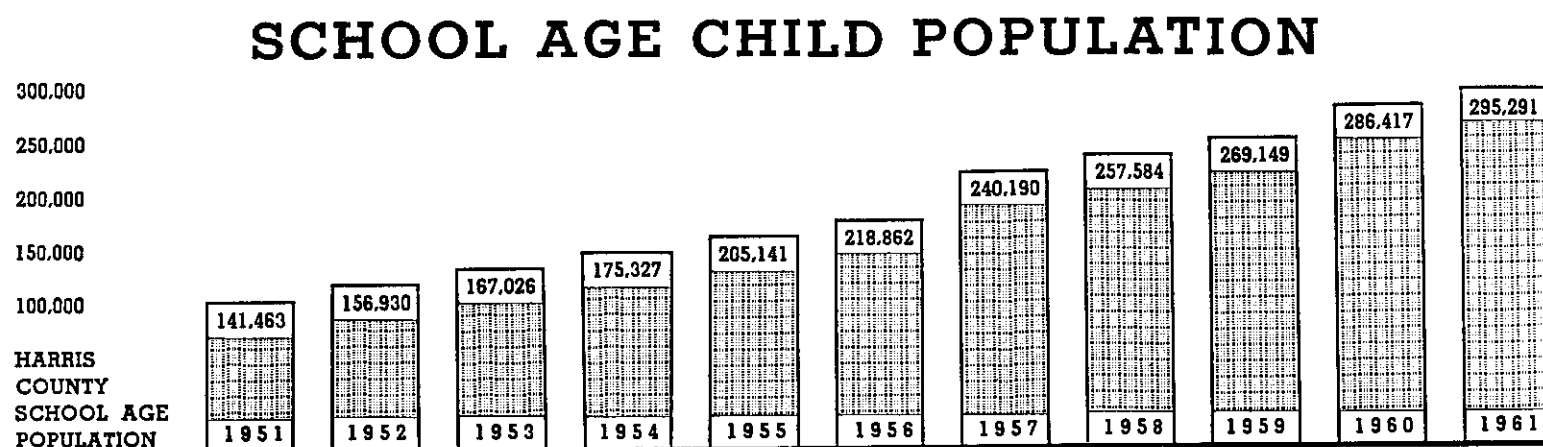
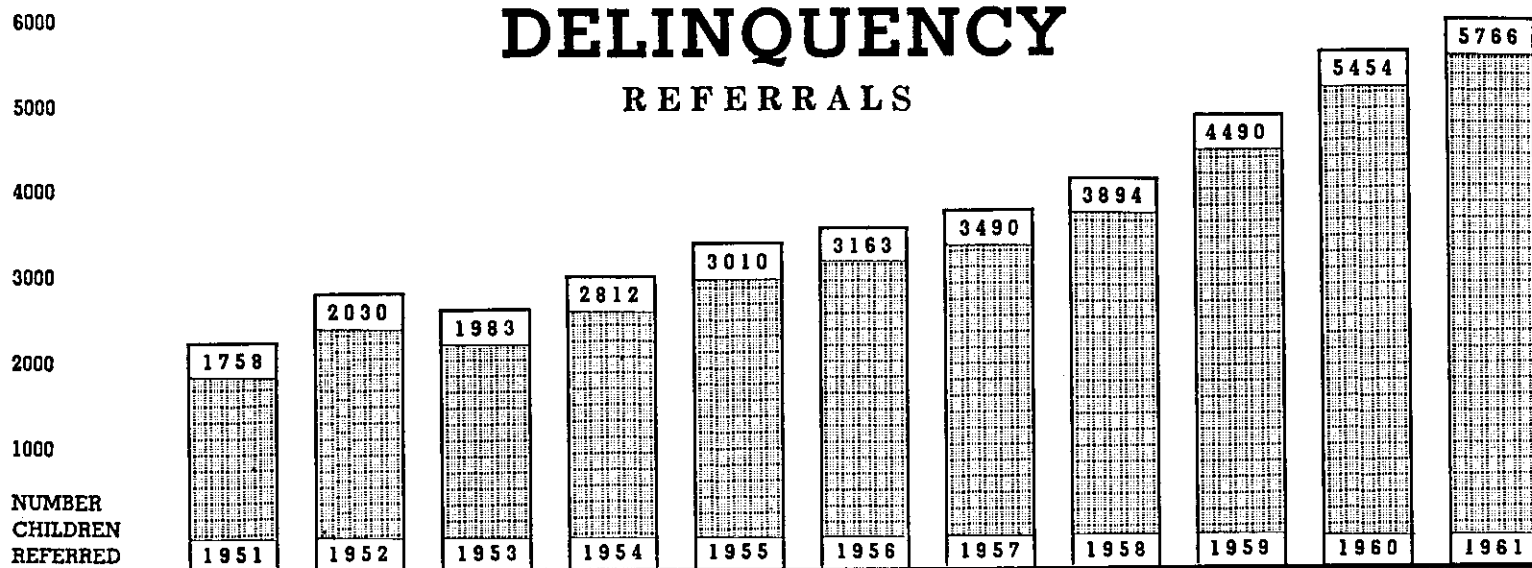
There is a distinct parallel between school age population increase and the increase in the number of referrals to the department. Heavily populated areas in the fringe area of downtown Houston account for the majority of the referrals.

Repeating offenders are becoming proportionately less each year. Some of the reasons for this can be accounted for in the fact that the juvenile divisions of the police and sheriff's departments are referring first offender felony cases and the children referred are being given early court experience. Further, the case loads have been so aligned that approximately eighty per cent of the children under supervision are under the court's jurisdiction rather than the assumption of supervision by probation officer without court order. Indications are that court experience is an important factor in treatment.

More dependent and neglected children are being serviced over shorter periods of time. More children are being placed in permanent home situations. More children are given custodial care in foster homes and institutions. And more children are being removed from their own homes where parental supervision is lacking.

Each year more children are receiving support services and more money is being received and disbursed.

All people involved in the handling of this problem express concern over the fact that with the great number of serious cases, little is provided for the early discovery and treatment in the way of educational programs or agency facilities.



1951 through 1961
HARRIS COUNTY

Census Tract Summary of Referrals

It is to be noted that the first ten highest rates of referral by census tracts are all in the perimeter of a five-mile radius of the city's center. The first twenty highest rates of referrals account for one-half of all referrals. And the first five account for seventeen per cent of all referrals. All other census tracts represent a scattering of like number.



THE FIRST 20 HIGHEST RATES OF DELINQUENCY REFERRALS BY CENSUS TRACTS

TRACT	REFER- RALS	TRACT	REFER- RALS	TRACT	REFER- RALS	TRACT	REFER- RALS
First # 9	234	Sixth # 18	113	Eleventh # 1	90	Sixteenth # 15	78
Second # 27	170	Seventh # 23	111	Twelfth # 49	89	Seventeenth .. # 538	76
Third # 38	135	Eighth # 74	101	Thirteenth # 20	88	Eighteenth ... # 54	75
Fourth # 10	133	Ninth # 37	100	Fourteenth ... # 12	83	Nineteenth ... # 17	72
Fifth # 16	108	Tenth # 5	96	Fifteenth # 19	80	Twentieth # 22	71

Delinquency Referrals

by AGE, RACE, SEX and OFFENSE

At the first of the year we had 1842 children active with the department and received 5766 referrals, a total of 7608. 1324 had been handled previously by the department, which means that seventeen per cent of the youth are referred more than once.

AGE . . .	BOYS				GIRLS				TOTAL CHILDREN
	WHITE	COLORED	L/A	TOTAL	WHITE	COLORED	L/A	TOTAL	
10	132	157	39	378	13	7	7	27	405
11	135	79	41	255	16	4	6	26	281
12	234	131	50	415	22	18	10	50	465
13	274	157	77	508	97	67	32	196	704
14	391	227	191	809	142	79	35	256	1065
15	530	238	214	982	140	81	36	257	1239
16	608	345	248	1201	125	77	37	235	1440
17	0	0	0	0	92	58	17	167	167
	2354	1334	860	4548	647	391	180	1218	5766

OFFENSE . . .	BOYS				GIRLS				TOTAL CHILDREN
	WHITE	COLORED	L/A	TOTAL	WHITE	COLORED	L/A	TOTAL	
Auto Theft	236	68	63	367	31	11	2	44	441
Robbery	41	47	11	99	5	4	8	17	116
Burglary- Unlawful Entry	647	318	281	1246	23	19	6	48	1294
Other Theft	382	369	141	892	68	53	32	153	1045
Truancy	36	39	32	107	24	16	1	41	148
Running Away	241	95	35	371	214	129	53	396	767
Being Ungovernable	71	24	23	118	40	30	27	97	215
Sex Offense	132	37	11	180	68	39	8	115	295
Use or Possession of Drugs	5	2	14	21	14	1	1	16	37
Assault Injury to Person	65	54	35	154	11	13	13	37	191
Malicious Mischief	116	57	58	231	7	5	1	13	244
Traffic Violation	15	13	10	38	12	1	0	13	51
Other Delinquent Behavior	367	211	146	724	130	70	28	228	952
	2354	1334	860	4548	647	391	180	1218	5766

DELINQUENCY REFERRALS

DETENTION HOME POPULATION

Children Referred Are Placed in Detention Pending Court Hearing

DETENTION WARD	WHITE	COLORED	L/A	TOTAL
Boys Detained.....	1182	915	575	2672
Average length of stay				3.9
Average number in Ward				28.0
Girls Detained.....	437	259	125	821
Average length of stay				4.89
Average number in Ward				11.6

DELINQUENT CHILDREN PROCESSED THROUGH JUVENILE COURT

NUMBER OF CASES REFERRED TO JUVENILE COURT

	BOYS				GIRLS				TOTAL CHILDREN
	WHITE	COLORED	L/A	TOTAL	WHITE	COLORED	L/A	TOTAL	
New Cases.....	321	142	94	557	65	59	16	140	697
Re-Opened Cases.....	146	55	62	263	54	24	11	89	352
TOTAL.....	467	197	156	820	119	83	27	229	1049
DISPOSITION									
Committed to Texas Youth Council....	66	74	36	176	25	30	5	60	236
Committed to									
Harris County Boy's School.....	37	0	9	46	0	0	0	0	46
Committed to Convent									
of The Good Shepherd.....	0	0	0	0	8	0	12	20	20
DECLARED DELINQUENT									
Probation to Parents.....	113	33	35	181	10	0	1	11	192
Probation to Father.....	14	5	4	23	2	0	1	3	26
Probation to Mother.....	31	17	13	61	10	9	1	20	81
Probation to Relatives.....	30	19	11	60	8	10	1	19	79
Probation to Others.....	13	0	1	14	9	2	1	12	26
Cases Pending.....	120	31	38	189	21	18	2	41	230
Cancelled and Reset.....	30	13	5	48	16	10	1	27	75
Dependent—Placed in F.H.....	1	1	0	2	4	3	1	8	10
Petition Denied.....	11	3	2	16	4	0	1	5	21
Show Cause.....	1	1	2	4	1	1	0	2	6
Contempt.....	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1

TEXAS YOUTH COUNCIL

BOYS AND GIRLS UNDER COMMITMENT ARE PLACED IN THE THREE STATE TRAINING SCHOOLS

GATESVILLE SCHOOL FOR BOYS

	WHITE	COLORED	L/A	TOTAL
Harris County Boys in institution—First of year.....	62	89	31	182
Boys committed during year.....	59	78	37	174
Parole revocations	16	42	20	78
Boys Paroled and Discharged.....	79	90	36	205
Boys on hand —Last day of year.....	58	119	52	229

GAINESVILLE SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

	WHITE	L/A	TOTAL
Harris County Girls in institution—First of year.....	14	10	24
Girls committed	27	10	32
Parole revocations	3	2	5
Girls paroled	15	12	27
Girls on hand—Last day of year.....	29	5	34

CROCKETT SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

	COLORED
Harris County girls in institution—First day of year.....	31
Girls committed revocation.....	30
Revocations	2
Girls paroled	24
Girls on hand—Last day of year.....	39

DEPENDENCY REFERRALS

TOTAL NUMBER CHILDREN PROCESSED AS DEPENDENT AND NEGLECTED CHILDREN THROUGH DEPARTMENT

Dependent and Neglect (only)	CASES				CHILDREN			
	WHITE	COLORED	L/A	TOTAL	WHITE	COLORED	L/A	TOTAL
Children under supervision								
First day of year.....	401	136	60	597	1152	435	212	1799
Number added during year.....	526	208	67	801	1391	613	212	2216
Number closed during year.....	584	202	68	854	1604	590	201	2395
Number on hand last day of year....	343	142	59	544	939	458	223	1620

DISPOSITION — COURT CASES

DEPENDENCY

Number of Cases Referred to Court	WHITE	COLORED	L/A	TOTAL
New Cases.....	161	56	20	237
Re-Opened Cases.....	83	29	14	126
Total Number of Cases.....	244	85	34	363

DISPOSITIONS BY NUMBER OF CHILDREN:

Placed at Burnet-Bayland.....	57	0	5	62
Placed in Foster Homes.....	45	55	4	104
Custody to Both Parents.....	39	1	0	40
Custody to Mother.....	13	9	0	22
Custody to Father.....	7	4	4	15
Custody to Others.....	30	1	8	39
Custody to Relatives.....	32	6	10	48
Custody to Catholic Charities.....	6	5	0	11
Custody to Buckners.....	7	3	0	10
Custody to Faith Home.....	11	0	0	11
Custody to Corsicana.....	2	0	0	2
Custody to Convent.....	2	0	0	2
Custody to Waco.....	7	0	1	8
Custody to South Texas Children's Homes.....	3	0	0	3
Parental Rights Terminated.....	11	18	5	34
Passed or Reset.....	226	77	30	333
Denied or Dismissed.....	35	16	3	54
Show Cause.....	13	0	0	13
Declared Delinquent.....	14	8	2	24
Decision Withheld.....	5	0	0	5
Contempt.....	16	0	0	16
TOTAL.....	581	203	72	856

SPECIAL SERVICES for Courts of Domestic Relations and Other Agencies

Custody Investigation received	168
Adoption Investigations received.....	814
Other Cases received (Foster Homes).....	30
O.T.I.'s received (out-of-town investigations).....	237

Institutional Facilities and Foster Homes Program

HARRIS COUNTY BOYS SCHOOL (Home for Delinquent Boys)			
	WHITE	L/A	TOTAL
Boys in Harris County Boys School—First day of year	57	11	68
Boys committed	37	9	46
Boys released	48	8	56
Boys on hand—Last day of year.....	46	12	58

BURNET-BAYLAND (Home for Dependent-Neglected Children)			
	BOYS	GIRLS	TOTAL
Children in institution—First day of year	60	48	108
Children received	96	116	212
Children released	100	110	210
Children in home—Last day of year.....	56	54	110

HARRIS COUNTY EMERGENCY HOMES (Including Emergency Home for Negro Children)			
	WHITE	COLORED	TOTAL
Children on hand—First day of year.....	16	2	18
Children placed in home	235	143	378
Children released during year	246	127	373
Children in homes—Last day of year.....	5	18	23

FOSTER HOMES

Children in PAID Foster Homes During Year			
	DEPENDENT CHILDREN	DELINQUENT CHILDREN	
Children in Foster Homes—First day of year.....	144	6	
Children Placed in Foster Homes During Year.....	127	10	
Children Released from Foster Homes During Year.....	104	10	
Children in Foster Homes—Last day of year.....	167	6	

Children in FREE Foster Homes

Children in Homes—First day of year.....	26	2
Children Placed During Year	23	1
Children Released During Year	20	1
Children in Foster Homes—Last day of year.....	29	2

Foster Homes in Use—First Day of Year..... 92

Foster Homes Put to Use During Year..... 66

ADOPTIVE HOMES

Children in Adoptive Homes—First day of year.....	34
Children placed in Adoptive Homes During Year.....	41
Children legally adopted during year.....	33
Children in adoptive homes—Last day of year.....	42

SUPPORT SERVICES

The Receiving and Disbursing of Funds Ordered through Divorce Actions
By Court

NUMBER CASES ACTIVE JANUARY 1, 1961.....	4974
TOTAL NUMBER CASES DURING YEAR.....	7955
NUMBER CHILDREN RECEIVING SUPPORT	15,404

TOTAL AMOUNT RECEIVED AND DISBURSED \$4,447,190.43

Notes:

ON September first of this past year, the Harris County Childrens Home was opened to receive Negro children for emergency shelter care. The unit located at 8111 Lawn Street on the north side of the city, contains a complete nursery and houses approximately thirty children from infancy through fourteen years of age, giving full custodial care prior to final court hearing and placement.

On December 1, 1961, the Texas Youth Council employed a state parole officer to supervise parolees from the state schools. In an agreement with the commissioners court, the office space, clerical help and transportation is furnished by the county, and the state furnishes the salary.

Mrs. Catherine Strickland, our emergency foster home mother for the past twenty years, passed away after an extended illness, forcing the department to incorporate an emergency care program for infants and pre-school youngsters within the cottage facility of Burnet-Bayland Home.

The Juvenile Board presented a request to the commissioners court to employ an architect for the immediate planning and construction of an emergency care unit on the campus of the Burnet-Bayland Home.

HARRIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT

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HONORABLE BILL ELLIOTT, County Judge

COMMISSIONERS

W. KYLE CHAPMAN.....Precinct Number 1
V. V. RAMSEY.....Precinct Number 2
PHILIP E. SAYERS.....Precinct Number 3
E. A. LYONS, JR.....Precinct Number 4

HARRIS COUNTY JUVENILE BOARD

HONORABLE BILL ELLIOTT, County Judge
Chairman of the Board

District Judges . . .

HONORABLE JOHN L. COMPTON	151st Judicial District Court
HONORABLE SAM W. DAVIS	Criminal District Court Number 5
HONORABLE LEWIS DICKSON	125th Judicial District Court
HONORABLE EDMUND B. DUGGAN	Criminal District Court
HONORABLE WM. M. HOLLAND	127th Judicial District Court
HONORABLE WILMER B. HUNT	133rd Judicial District Court
HONORABLE BYRON JOHNSON	80th Judicial District Court
HONORABLE LANGSTON G. KING	Criminal District Court Number 2
HONORABLE ARNOLD H. KRICHAMER	Criminal District Court Number 4
HONORABLE MIRON A. LOVE	Criminal District Court Number 3
HONORABLE SEARS W. McGEE	55th Judicial District Court
HONORABLE J. W. MILLS	Court of Domestic Relations
HONORABLE BEN MOORHEAD	11th Judicial District Court
HONORABLE WENDELL A. ODOM	Court of Domestic Relations Number 2
HONORABLE PHIL PEDEN	157th Judicial District Court
HONORABLE JOHN SNELL, JR.	152nd Judicial District Court
HONORABLE THOMAS J. STOVALL, JR	129th Judicial District Court
HONORABLE BERT H. TUNKS	113th Judicial District Court
HONORABLE BEN F. WILSON	61st Judicial District Court
HONORABLE BEN WOODALL	Court of Domestic Relations Number 3

THE JUVENILE COURT

Judge of the Juvenile Court.....HONORABLE J. W. MILLS
Referee of the Juvenile Court.....EDWARD ROCHE